

What is claimed is:

1. An information processing apparatus comprising:

a) a locking unit for stopping one of a start and a function of said information processing apparatus, and

5        b) means for operating said locking unit responsive to at least one of an incoming signal from a communication apparatus and a signal indicating a position of said information processing apparatus.

2. An information terminal for making radio communication with an  
10 information processing apparatus comprising:

a') an input unit for accepting an input operation, and

b') a communication unit for at least one of transmitting and receiving,  
wherein said communication unit sends a signal to said information processing apparatus according to the input to said input unit.

15        3. An information processing system for making radio communication comprising:

(1) an information processing apparatus, and

(2) an information terminal for making radio communication with said  
20 information processing apparatus,

wherein said information processing apparatus comprises:

a) a transmitting and receiving unit for making radio communication,

b) a locking unit for stopping one of a start and a function of said information processing apparatus, and

25        c) means for operating said locking unit responsive to at least one of an incoming signal from the transmitting and receiving unit and a signal indicating the position of said information processing apparatus,

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said information terminal comprises:

a') an input unit for accepting an input operation, and

b') a communication unit for at least one of transmitting and receiving,

and

5           the communication unit sends a signal to said information processing apparatus according to the input to the input unit.

4.   The information processing apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

10           c) a transmitting and receiving unit for making radio communication with the communication apparatus,

          d) a radio field strength detector for measuring a reception strength of a signal received in said transmitting and receiving unit, and

15           e) an out-of-range determining and informing unit for judging the reception strength, and sending an out-of-range notice signal to the locking unit when the reception strength is out of a predetermined range,

          wherein the out-of-range determining and informing unit functions as means for operating the locking unit.

20           5.   The information terminal of claim 2, further comprising:

          c') a display unit for displaying at least one of image and text received from the information terminal,

          d') a locking unit for stopping either start or function of the information terminal,

25           e') a radio field strength detector for measuring the reception strength of the radio signal received from the information processing apparatus, and

          f') an out-of-range determining and informing unit for judging the

09842189.073101

reception strength, and sending an out-of-range notice signal to the locking unit when the reception strength is out of a predetermined range,

wherein said out-of-range determining and informing unit operates said locking unit, and said locking unit makes one of stopping at least one of said display unit and said input unit, and stopping the start of said information terminal.

6. The information terminal of claim 2, further comprising:

c') a display unit for displaying at least one of image and text received from said information processing apparatus,

d') a location detector for detecting a position by using a global positioning system, and

e') a locking unit for stopping one of a start and a function of said information terminal,

wherein said locking unit, responsive to a position detected by said location detector, makes one of stopping at least one of the display unit and the input unit, and stopping a start of said information terminal.

7. The information terminal of claim 2, further comprising:

c') a location detector for detecting a position by using a global positioning system (GPS), and

d') an out-of-range determining and informing unit for outputting a signal to be noticed to said information processing apparatus, in the case a position detected by said location detector is out of a predetermined range, so that said information processing apparatus stops one of a start and a function thereof.

09842189.073101

8. The information processing system of claim 3,  
wherein said information terminal further comprises:

c') a location detector for detecting the position by using a global  
positioning system (GPS), and

5 d') an out-of-range determining and informing unit for outputting a  
notice signal to said information processing apparatus to the communication  
unit if the position detected by the location detector is out of a predetermined  
range,

said information processing apparatus further comprises:

10 d) an input unit for accepting an input operation, and

e) a display unit for displaying at least one of image and text responsive  
to the input operation, and

the locking unit, responsive to the notice signal, makes one of stopping  
at least one of the display unit and the input unit of said information processing  
15 apparatus, and stopping a start of said information processing apparatus.

9. The information processing apparatus of claim 1, further  
comprising:

20 c) a transmitting and receiving unit for making radio communication  
with the communication apparatus, and

d) a password memory for storing a password according to the signal  
received in the transmitting and receiving unit,

wherein one of starting said information processing apparatus , and  
starting the operation of its function is started, when the password stored in the  
25 password memory is matched with the password received from the information  
terminal.

09842189-073101

10. The information terminal of claim 2,

wherein said input unit i) receives instruction for locking of operation, unlocking of operation, or setting of password, and ii) receives input of password, and said communication unit transmits data received in the input unit to said information processing apparatus in order to control said information processing apparatus.

11. The information processing system of claim 3,

wherein said input unit of the information terminal i) receives instruction for locking of operation, unlocking of operation, or setting of password, and ii) receives input of password, and said communication unit transmits data received in said input unit to said information processing apparatus in order to control said information processing apparatus,

said information processing apparatus further comprises:

d) a password memory for storing a password according to the signal received from said information terminal, and

e) an unlocking unit for making one of starting said information processing apparatus and starting the operation of its function when the password stored in the password memory is matched with a further password received from said information terminal, and

the locking unit operates according to a signal received from said information terminal, and allows one of a start and a function of said information processing apparatus to be stopped.

12. The information processing apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

c) a location detector for detecting the position by using a global

09842189-073101

positioning system (GPS),

d) an range memory for preliminarily storing a usable range of said information processing apparatus, and

e) an unlocking unit for making one of starting said information processing apparatus and starting the operation of its function,

wherein if the position detected by the location detector is out of a predetermined range, the locking unit stops one of a start and a function of said information processing apparatus, and if the position detected by the location detector is within the predetermined range, the unlocking unit implements one of starting said information processing apparatus and starting the operation of its function.

13. The information processing apparatus of claim 12, further comprising:

f) an input unit for accepting an input operation, and

g) a display unit for displaying at least one of image and text responsive to the input operation,

wherein i) if a position detected by the location detector is out of the predetermined range, the locking unit makes one of stopping at least one of the display unit and the input unit, and stopping a start of said information processing apparatus, and ii) if the position detected by the location detector is within the predetermined range, the unlocking unit makes one of starting at least one of the display unit and the input unit, and starting the information processing apparatus.

14. A control method for information processing apparatus comprising the steps of:

a) generating a signal responsive to at least one of an incoming signal from a communication apparatus and a signal indicating a position of said information processing apparatus, and

b) stopping one of a start thereof and a function thereof responsive to the  
5 signal.

15. A control method for information terminal for making radio communication with an information processing apparatus comprising the steps of:

10 a) accepting an input operation, and  
b) implementing at least one of transmitting and receiving,  
wherein the communication unit sends a signal to said information processing apparatus responsive to an input to the input unit.

15 16. A control method for information processing system for making radio communication mutually between an information processing apparatus and an information terminal,

in said information processing apparatus said control method comprising the steps of:

20 a) generating a signal responsive to at least one of an incoming signal from said information terminal and a signal indicating a position of said information processing apparatus, and

b) stopping one of a start and a function thereof responsive the signal,  
in said information terminal, said control method comprising the steps  
25 of:

a) accepting an input operation, and

b) implementing at least one of transmitting and receiving, and

09842189-073101

the communication unit sends a signal to the information processing apparatus responsive to the input to the input unit.

17. The control method for information processing apparatus of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

- c) making radio communication with the communication apparatus,
- d) measuring a reception strength of a received signal, and
- e) judging the reception strength, and stopping one of a start and a function of said information processing apparatus when the reception strength is out of a predetermined range.

18. The control method for information terminal of claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

- c) displaying at least one of image and text received from said information processing apparatus,
- d) measuring a reception strength of a radio signal received from said information processing apparatus,
- e) judging the reception strength, and sending an out-of-range notice signal when the reception strength is out of a predetermined range, and
- f) implementing one of stopping at least one of the display at step c) and acceptance of the input operation, and stopping a start of said information terminal, responsive to the out-of-range notice signal.

19. The control method for information terminal of claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

- c) displaying at least one of image and text received from the information processing apparatus,



d') detecting a position by using a global positioning system (GPS), and  
 e') implementing one of stopping at least one of display at step c') and acceptance of the input operation, and stopping a start of the information terminal, based on the position detected at step d').

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20. The control method for information terminal of claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

c') detecting a position by using a global positioning system (GPS), and  
 d') outputting a signal to notice said information processing apparatus,  
 10 in case that the position detected at step c') is out of a predetermined range, so that said information processing apparatus stops one of a start and a function thereof.

21. The control method for information processing system of claim 16,  
 15 wherein in said information terminal, said control method further comprises the steps of:

c') detecting a position by using a global positioning system (GPS), and  
 d') outputting a notice signal to said information processing apparatus to  
 said information terminal if the position detected at step c') is out of a  
 20 predetermined range,

in said information processing apparatus, said control method further comprises the steps of:

c) displaying at least one of image and text, and  
 d) implementing one of stopping at least one of the display at step c) and  
 25 acceptance of input operation, and stopping a start of said information processing apparatus, based on the notice signal.

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22. The control method for information processing apparatus of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

- c) making radio communication with the communication apparatus,
- d) storing a password responsive to the signal received at step c), and
- 5 e) implementing one of starting said information processing apparatus and starting operation of a function thereof, when the stored password is matched with a further password received from the communication apparatus.

23. The control method for information terminal of claim 15,  
10 wherein step a') further includes the steps of i) receiving instruction for locking of operation, unlocking of operation, or setting of a password, and ii) receiving input of a password, and step b') further includes a step of transmitting the data received at step a') to said information processing apparatus in order to control said information processing apparatus.

24. The control method for information processing system of claim 16,  
15 wherein in said information terminal, step a') further includes the steps of i) receiving instruction for locking of operation, unlocking of operation, or setting of a password, and ii) receiving input of a password, and, step b') further includes a step of transmitting the data received at step a') to said information processing apparatus in order to control said information processing apparatus, and

in said information processing apparatus, said control method further comprises the steps of:

- 25 c) accepting an input operation,
- d) storing a password responsive to the signal received from the information terminal,

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e) implementing one of starting said information processing apparatus and starting an operation of a function thereof when the password stored at step d) is matched with a further password received from the information terminal, and

5 f) stopping one of a start and a function of said information processing apparatus responsive to a signal received from the information terminal.

25. The control method for information processing apparatus of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

10 c) detecting a position by using a global positioning system (GPS),

d) preliminarily storing an usable range of said information processing apparatus,

e) stopping one of a start and a function of said information processing apparatus, if the position detected at step c) is out of the stored range, and

15 f) implementing one of starting said information processing apparatus and starting operation of a function thereof, if the position detected at step c) is within the predetermined range.

26. The control method for information processing apparatus of claim 20 25, further comprising the steps of:

f) displaying at least one of image and text, and

g) accepting an input operation,

wherein i) if the position detected at step c) is out of the predetermined range, at step e), one of stopping at least one of the display at step f) and input operation, and stopping a start of said information processing apparatus is made, and ii) if the position detected at step c) is within the predetermined range, one of starting at least one of the display at step f) and acceptance of the input

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operation, and starting said information processing apparatus is made.

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